

The North Carolina DOT's Bridge Maintenance Unit, with assistance from various consultants, inspect all bridges on the State Highway System. All bridges in Burke County have been analyzed, rated, and inventoried. The resulting data has been reduced to a more readily usable form as a management tool.

A sufficiency rating was used in the analysis to determine the deficiency of each bridge. The sufficiency rating is a method of evaluating factors that determine whether a bridge is sufficient to remain in service. Factors used include:

- * structural adequacy and safety
- * serviceability and functional obsolescence
- * essentiality for public use
- * type of structure
- * traffic safety features

The result of this method is a percentage in which 100 percent represents an entirely sufficient bridge and zero percent represents an entirely insufficient or deficient bridge. A sufficiency rating of 50 percent or less qualifies for Federal Bridge Replacement Funds.

Deficient bridges are categorized as either functionally obsolete or structurally deficient. Bridges in the functionally obsolete category have below average ratings in approach roadway alignment, under clearance, deck geometry, waterway adequacy, or structural condition. Structurally deficient bridges have below average ratings in deck superstructure, substructure, overall structural condition, or waterway adequacy. Table 7 shows the functionally obsolete bridges in Burke County. Table 8 shows the ten most structurally deficient bridges in Burke County.

Table 7

Functionally Obsolete Bridges in Burke County (ratings<50.0)

Bridge Number	Facility Carried	Location	Rating
16*	SR 1795	0.8 mi S of SR 1001	37.9
61	SR 1439	0.9 mi E of SR 1410	49.5
70	SR 1918	0.3 mi W of SR 1922	49.5
79	SR 1956	0.5 mi W of SR 1957	47.8
145	SR 1430	0.05 mi N of SR 1431	48.3
216	SR 1722	0.02 mi S of SR 1731	47.1
217	SR 1731	0.15 mi E of SR 1722	47.1
237	SR 1913	0.1 mi E of SR 1914	46.7
273	SR 1421	0.15 mi S of SR 1419	49.9
347	SR 1984	0.01 mi W of NC 18	36.8

Note * - Denotes the Bridge is in the current Transportation Improvement Program